

LAD Conferences

15 janvier 2010, 12h45
DS-3470, 320 Ste-Catherine Est, Montréal

L a b o r a t o i r e d e r e c h e r c h e s u r l e s a s y m é t r i e s d ' i n t e r f a c e s

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A Naturalistic Theory of Lexical Contents?

By 'lexical contents' I mean 'lexical meanings'. I explore the prospects of an internalist, naturalistic, and feature-cluster theory of lexical meanings. To do so, I argue against Fodor's 'atomic' and externalist account of lexical content, and - adopting aspects of Hagit Borer's account of a "listeme", suggest how to resolve some issues of lexical meaning and sentential meaning-compositionality.

While **James McGilvray's** Ph.D. at Yale was in philosophy on problems of time and tenses, he soon developed an interest in linguistics and did a postdoctoral fellowship at MIT's linguistics department in the 1970s. It was only during the last fifteen years, however, that he has tried to bridge the large gap between work done by linguists in the Chomskyan 'rationalist' (now biolinguistic) tradition and that done by the great majority of philosophers working in the philosophy of language and philosophy of mind.

Selected Publications

Books

Editor and new introduction to third edition of Chomsky, Noam. *Cartesian Linguistics*. Cambridge University Press, 2009.
Editor for and contributor to *Cambridge Companion to Chomsky*, 2005.
Editor and new introduction to second edition of Chomsky, Noam. *Cartesian Linguistics*. Cybereditions (paper and electronic), 2003.
Chomsky. Cambridge, UK: Polity (Blackwell's), 1999.
Tense, Reference, and Worldmaking. McGill-Queen's, 1991.

Articles / Book Chapters

"Meaning and Creativity." In *Cambridge Companion to Chomsky*, 2005.
"On the Innateness of Language." In Stainton, ed. *Contemporary Debates in Cognitive Science*. Blackwell's, 2006.
"MOPs: The Science of Concepts". In *Belief and Meaning* (ed. Hinzen and Rott), 2002.
"Meanings are Syntactically Individuated and Found in the Head." *Mind and Language*, 1998.
"Constant Colors in the Head." *Synthese*, 1994.

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en collaboration avec le Comité d'animation scientifique du Département de Linguistique

